

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /063 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:FJDEVINE:MMS
APPROVED BY ARA:FJDEVINE
ARA/AND:MRBARNEBEY (SUBS)
-----010252Z 085113 /62

R 302150Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LIMA QUITO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 098424

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BL

SUBJECT: INITIAL DEMARCHE TO CONTRIBUTE TO EASING OF
TENSION IN THE ANDES

1. ON EVE OF BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE TO ATTEND
CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE IN LA PAZ, DEPARTMENT INITIAT-
ED WITH HIM SERIES OF DEMARCHES DESIGNED TO CONTRIBUTE TO
EASING OF TENSIONS IN THE ANDES. THIS WAS FIRST OF THE
INDIVIDUALLY TAILORED APPROACHES CONTEMPLATED BY COM-
PREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF WHICH YOU ARE ALREADY AWARE AND WITH
WHICH YOU HAVE RECENTLY INDICATED YOUR AGREEMENT.

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2. ON APRIL 29, IN WISHING AMBASSADOR CRESPO A SAFE
JOURNEY, OFFICE DIRECTOR DEVINE NOTED APPARENT RELAXATION
OF ANDEAN TENSIONS SINCE UNEASY PERIOD IN DECEMBER AND
JANUARY. WHEN AMBASSADOR CRESPO INQUIRED AS TO WHAT WAS
SEEN AS CAUSE OF SUCH RELAXATION, ASKING SPECIFICALLY IF
"VISITS" HAD CONTRIBUTED THERETO --- NOT CLEAR WHETHER
HE REFERRED TO INTRA-ANDEAN VISITS UNDERTAKEN FOR THAT

SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF VISITS OF ANDEAN COUNTRY OFFICIALS TO WASHINGTON---DEVINE REPLIED THAT THESE MAY VERY WELL HAVE HELPED BUT THAT ANOTHER IMPORTANT FACTOR IN OUR VIEW WAS EVENTUAL DISSIPATION OF CERTAIN MISPERCEPTIONS AND INCORRECT INTERPRETATIONS UPON WHICH SOME OF DECEMBER-

JANUARY TENSIONS HAD UNFORTUNATELY BEEN BASED.

3. DEPARTMENT OFFICER THEN SUGGESTED THAT WITH THAT PERIOD OF HEIGHTENED TENSION NOW BEHIND US, THIS MIGHT BE GOOD TIME TO BEGIN CONSIDERING HOW TO AVOID FUTURE SUCH EXPERIENCES. WHEN AMBASSADOR CRESPO ASKED WHAT HE HAD IN MIND, DEVINE REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT MEAN TO OFFER ANY CONCRETE SUGGESTIONS BUT RATHER WANTED AMBASSADOR CRESPO AND GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA TO KNOW --- AS HE WAS SURE THEY DID --- OF USG COMMITMENT TO CAUSE OF PEACE IN THE AMERICAS OF WHICH ANDEAN REGION IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART. HE SUGGESTED THAT WHATEVER ALL OF US COULD DO TO AVOID ALARMIST VIEWS OR MISPERCEPTIONS WOULD BE ALL TO THE GOOD.

4. WITH SPECIFIC REGARD TO BOLIVIA, DEVINE SAID THAT WE WERE WELL AWARE OF CONCERN THERE OVER POSSIBLE INTRA-ANDEAN CONFLICT WHICH MIGHT SPILL OVER ONTO BOLIVIAN TERRITORY. SUCH APPREHENSIONS CAN GENERATE POWERFUL PRESSURE FOR EXPENSIVE ACQUISITION OF DEFENSIVE OR DETERRENT WEAPONS. ALL OF US HAD NOTED WITH ADMIRATION PRESIDENT BANZER'S RESOLVE THUS FAR TO RESIST SUCH PRESSURES AND TO SUBORDINATE ARMS PURCHASES TO EXPENDITURE FOR ECONOMIC

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AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. WE APPLAUDED THIS AND WISHED HIM WELL, AND WE THOUGHT THIS TASK WOULD BE MADE EASIER TO THE EXTENT THAT THE LEVEL OF TENSIONS COULD BE HELD DOWN OR DEFUSED.

5. IN SUMMING UP, DEVINE SAID THAT HE WAS CERTAINLY NOT PROPOSING ANY SPECIFIC COURSE OF ACTION BUT DID WANT THE AMBASSADOR TO KNOW OF OUR DEEP INTEREST IN THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE AND OUR DESIRE TO BE A POSITIVE FACTOR FOR THAT CAUSE.

6. AMBASSADOR CRESPO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND SAID THAT HE WOULD BE REPORTING THESE COMMENTS IN THE COURSE OF HIS CONVERSATIONS IN LA PAZ.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: PFOR, BL, US, CI, EC, PE, (CRESPO, ALBERTO)
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